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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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Subject: Two-Month Report of the MinistriesSpecific: Report of the Ministry of Interior for the Period from 15 December 1947 to 14 February 1948

Apart from authoritative assistance on drafts of laws, the Legal and Constitutional Division in the current reporting months has worked out a memorandum on the question of reorganization of the administration in the Soviet Occupation Zone, which has already been the subject of discussions in the cabinet. The Division is now trying, in conjunction with the other ministries, to collect material on the legislative work of the German Central Administrations up to the present, through which later exhaustive suggestions can be submitted on cooperation between the central administrations and the Land governments and parliaments.

Of special interest for the future was the scientific working out and legal preparation of the new economic law in continuous conferences with expert jurists of the Land government, the Chamber of Industry and Commerce, and the Industrie-Werke. The result of these inquiries is to be published in a special book, Contributions to the New Economic Law, by the publishing house of the Mitteldeutsche Verlagsgesellschaft. Two drafts of laws which regulate these matters and which are distinguished from one another only in some minor questions will be ready in a short time.

In addition to this, in the same way the problem of the reorganization of the administration is to be discussed and coordinated in a memorandum, Reform of the Administration in Land Saxony-Anhalt. Through this, a law for Land administration which was worked out earlier is to receive its final form.

Moreover, in the Legal and Constitutional Division current legal information was given out on questions of public right, issuing of the legal gazette was supervised, and detailed motions for compensation based on measures of public authority, motions based on emergency ordinances, and old and newly occurring expropriation motions were processed.

Material was assembled for the transfer of assets of the Land to anti-Fascist and democratic organizations, on the basis of the law of 30 May 1945, and was investigated and immediately presented to the cabinet for decision.

In the Communal Division, work for the territorial reformation of Land Saxony-Anhalt is much in the foreground for the future. Further, the preliminary work for dissolving the estate districts was continued. A new designation of localities was arranged and the maps showing it were commissioned. Numerous local statutes of communities and community unions were examined.

In order to eliminate the multiplicity of organization plans objected to by SMA for Kreis administrations, after exhaustive conferences with the competent offices, a unified organization plan was proposed which can be adapted to the actual requirements of the Kreis.

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The Land Fire Protection Office, integrated as Division Ic of the Ministry of Interior, reports for the period 309 fires, including 24 large and 34 middle-sized, and fire protection activity in various Kreise, in disaster operations (floods). In contrast to the two preceding months, a decrease of about 47 percent in large and medium-sized fires is to be remarked.

In the Personnel Division emphasis is put on work for executing Order No. 201. By 25 January 1948, altogether more than 22,000 removals are to be designated in this Referat alone. Through liaison of competent Referat chiefs and experts with the Commissions in Kreise and Kreis-less cities, orderly control was guaranteed for the future.

The total personnel cadre decreased by 70 persons in comparison with the preceding report, and now amounts to 2,810 employees.

In the Land Police Authority, as before, emphasis is placed on security police functions, and especially on measures against black marketing, illegal border crossing, and protection of transport by rail and road. Thus, for example, of 11,264 zentners of sugar beets reported as stolen, 6,196 zentners were recovered. The sugar beet factories of the Land were an especially strong center of attraction for black marketing.

As to weapons, 78 pistols, 41 carbines and rifles, and 10 shotguns were confiscated with their ammunition and turned over to the local komendatura.

Criminality increased in January 1948. In contrast to 8,915 charges in December 1947, 10,570 charges were registered for January 1948. Fifty-one percent of all charges could be cleared. The cooperation of the police with the denazification commission as well as with the democratic parties and organizations improved essentially in execution of Order 201. For January 1948, almost 600 new processes were registered; in 391 case investigations were conducted.

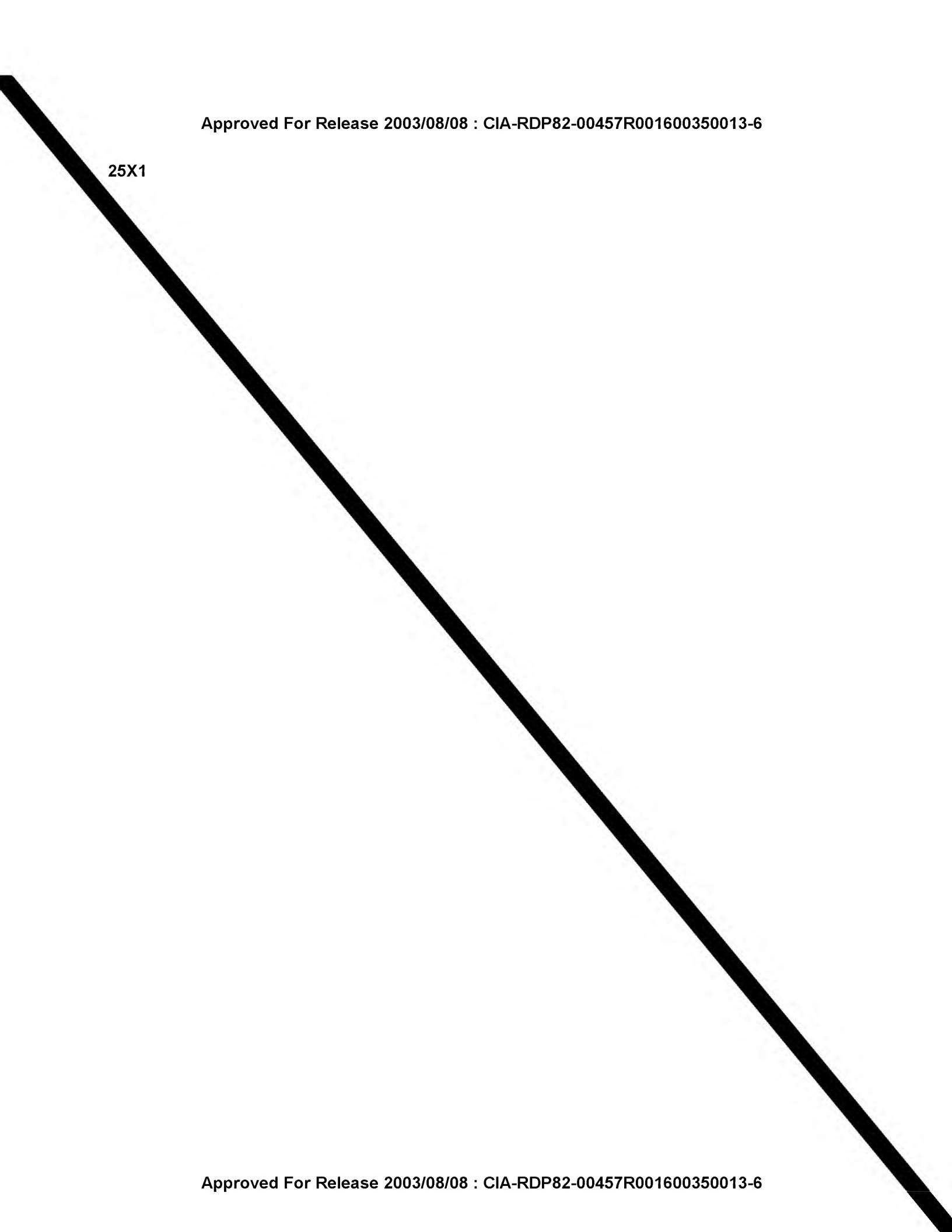
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